

## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS IN GRAND OPENING OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE MALL

Hazleton, N.D., September 1, 2005-USDA Rural Development State Director Clare Carlson today presented a ceremonial check for \$614,000 in grant and loan funds to the Hazelton Development Corporation as part of a finance package for the construction of a new business complex called Prairie Village Mall.

“We are pleased for our part in this project,” said Carlson. “The community is to be commended for pulling together and making a major contribution to the development of this new business and community complex.”

Carlson made the presentation during the grand opening of the Prairie Village Mall in Hazleton, N.D.

Rural Development investments in the project include two rural business enterprise grants for \$314,000 and an 80 percent loan guarantee for \$300,000 to the Bank of Hazleton. Total cost of the project is approximately \$1.1 million with the remaining

investments coming from other local, state, and community partners.

“This represents a great partnership with federal, local, and state governments and the community working together,” said Carlson.

The business complex serves as home for a technology center, a grocery store, a salon and for retail/manufacturing space.

In Fiscal Year 2004, USDA Rural Development provided over **\$78 million dollars** in loan and grant financing to North Dakota citizens.

USDA Rural Development is the lead federal entity for rural economic and community development needs. It administers financial and technical assistance through a network of state Rural Development offices, various non-profit and educational institutional partners, and its national office. USDA's web site is <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

